

We may add that all our payments against above goods will be made to the credit of the respective firms with the Banque Belge pour l'Etranger, 2 Bishopsgate Street, London, E. C., where all our payments have been made on behalf of Belgian manufacturers since the outbreak of the war.

Yours, etc.,
Cowie Bros. & Co.,
(Sd.) W. GOVAN.

Revenue

R. & S. 1077.

4th March 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

In reply to your letter of the 22nd February, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India are prepared to permit importation into India of goods of Belgian origin, previously imported into the United Kingdom under special or general license granted by the Board of Trade, on production to the Indian customs authorities of the original license or of a certified copy.

In the case of such goods not previously imported into the United Kingdom, but transhipped in British ports, or imported direct into India, it would be necessary for you to produce to the Indian Customs authorities the original or a certified copy of the license from the Board of Trade authorising you to procure the goods from Belgium, together with an undertaking that the Board's requirements as regards payment for the goods will be complied with, and also a certificate granted by a British Consular Officer to the effect that he is satisfied from documentary evidence laid before him that the goods are in fact of Belgian origin.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
(Sd.) E. J. TURNER.

Messrs. Cowie Bros. & Co.,
20, Blythswood Square,
Glasgow.

The Board of Trade, in consultation with the Parliamentary Counsel (who is now entrusted with 'Trading with the enemy' questions), have arranged a policy of granting what amounts to a general license to procure Belgian goods on certain conditions and to import them into the United Kingdom.

There is no reason to doubt that the Government of India, who have already expressed their willingness to admit into India Belgian goods, already imported into the United Kingdom under special license, on production of the original license at the Indian port, will be ready to follow the present lead of the Board of Trade. So far as concerns firms established in India they could act on these lines on their own account. But the more usual cases will be those in which firms in the United Kingdom wish to send Belgian goods from Holland to India either *via* the United Kingdom or direct.

If sent *via* the United Kingdom, *i.e.*, if they are first landed here, they would be covered by the Government of India's decision already expressed (*see* above). If only transhipped in the United Kingdom, or if sent direct to India, the issue of a license, in the case of a British firm, would present difficulties, since neither this Office nor the Government of India would be in a position to know the status of a British firm or its *bona fides*, which knowledge would be necessary before a license should be given. Therefore it seems best to adhere in the case of British firms, to the principle already adopted, that import into India should only be permitted if the goods have been procured from Belgium under a license (special or general) granted by the Board of Trade.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office have undertaken orally to inform this Office of any general licenses so granted, and we can inform India. It will then be sufficient for the firm to produce to the Indian Customs, on import into India, a certified copy of their license granted by the Board, together with the undertaking and the certificate referred to in the penultimate paragraph of the model form of letter sent over by the Board (below).

No. G. 10835—G. M. 219-15-7, dated 2nd February 1916.

The powers conferred by Government Notification No. G. 1088—G. M. 56-10-5, dated the 18th August 1910, on the Rev. George Kannegiesser of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission to solemnise marriages and to grant certificates of marriage within the territories of Mysore under the Indian Christian Marriage Laws in force in Mysore, are hereby revoked.